

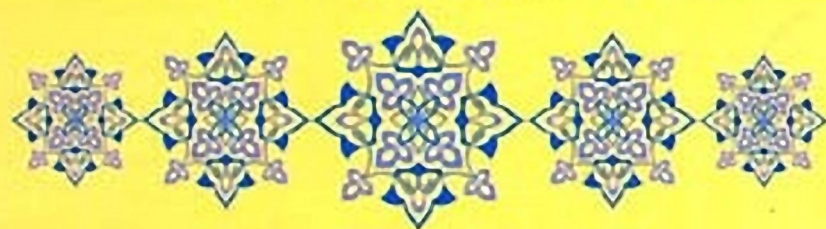
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(kashmir)



The Contemporary Era

&

The Prophetic Traditions



ShaheedIslam
Hazrat Maulana Muhammad Yousaf Ludhyanvi
(Rahimahullah)

The Contemporary Era and The Prophetic Traditions

ShaheedelIslam
Hazrat Maulana Muhammad Yousuf Ludhyanvi
(Rahimahullah)

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Translator's Note

It is never an easy task to translate a text, and the job gets tougher when it comes to Prophetic Traditions - as every single word uttered by the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) is taken as a decree of guidance. While translating this compilation, I have tried my level best to keep it close to the source text, but it is almost impossible to translate each and every word of a language, particularly Arabic - owing to its tremendous richness, in totality. Here, it is imperative to mention that I have kept the word '*fitnah*', that has come very often in this compilation, as it is, and its English translation within brackets according to the context - as, to me, in this compilation it has been the most difficult word to translate into a single English word. I hope reader will be able to comprehend it, wherever mentioned, by the context.

Reader is invited to contemplate on each and every single word of this compilation, and, apart from taking into consideration the advices, warnings, guidance, proscriptions, prescription etc., enhance his belief regarding the finality and truthfulness of our beloved

Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) after observing how every word prophesied by him more than fourteen centuries back is coming true like daylight.

May Allah elevate the status of Shahid Mawlana Muhammad Yousuf Ludhianvi (RA) for coming up with such a magnificent compilation at a crucial juncture when the Ummah has plunged into the lowest ebb of disobedience, and drifted afar from the Islamic teachings. Going through it has left me with the feeling that perhaps Mawlana (RA) has responded to an intuition to compile what is, at this time, beneficial and crucial requirement of the Ummah. May this compilation spark fresh spirit of belief, hope, strength and resolution into the Ummah which is presently in a timid, desolate, feeble and irresolute state.

I am highly indebted to my teacher and Sheikh Dr. Rafiq Ahmad for being always there to guide me in every possible way; whatever this worthless creature has of any good is because of him. I am also extremely thankful to my friend Mr. Aabid Ahmad for his invaluable advices/suggestions whenever/wherever needed.

May Allah accept this humble endeavour, and may it become a medium of our reformation.

Sameem Husain.

02.12.2009

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Srinagar, Kashmir.

Note of Appreciation

You have executed a lot of courage and done a commendable attempt in translating this book into English. You must always supplicate to Allah for its acceptance and for the grant of more tawfeeq to continue with such kind of work. May Allah bestow upon you success in this world and the next, and make you an obedient doer. May He accept your endeavour.

Moulana Muhammad Ilyas Ludhyanvi (DB)
Grandson -Shaheed Hazrat Moulana Muhammad
Yousuf Ludhyanvi (Rahimahullah)
www.shaheedeislam.com

Foreword

Allah (SWT) created man and sent him as the vicegerent on earth. He made elaborate arrangements for mankind by sending prophets along with divine scriptures from time to time. Finally, He sent the Seal of the Prophets - Sayyiduna Muhammad (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) with the last and final testament - the Qur'an. Being the last Ummah and no prophet to come, the world is certainly going to end in forthcoming years, the exact time of which is known to Almighty Allah alone. There are unending aspects which reveal the truthfulness of Islam; one of them being the predictions, particularly about the era before the Hour, prophesied by the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) fourteen hundred years ago. We people, in the 21st century, are ourselves witnessing many of these predictions coming true. These things definitely enhance the faith of a believer.

ShaheedeIslam Hazrat Maulana Muhammad Yousuf Ludhyanvi (Rahimahullah), the noted scholar of the subcontinent in the recent past, has done tremendous hard work by collecting numerous authentic sayings of our beloved Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) in his

book '*Asr Haazir Ahaadith-i-Nabavi Kay Aayeenay Main*'. It has been a great service to the Ummah rendered by him. May Allah elevate his rank more and more in the Hereafter. Since the book is in Urdu and those not well versed with the language were finding it difficult to comprehend it completely. A dire need of its English version was felt in order to make it available for those comfortable with the English language. This difficult job was undertaken by dear Sameem Husain who, as I personally know, had to put lot of effort and hard work to accomplish the task. It is always a difficult job to translate anything while keeping the original message of the author intact; I think, dear Sameem has done that beautifully. May Allah accept his hard work and give him *Tawfeeq* to do more and more service to Islam with *Ikhlaas*.

Prof. Dr. Rafiq Ahmad.

19/11/2009

Author:

Instrument for Understanding Qur'an;

Aijaz-ul-Qur'an;

Introduction to al-Hadith;

Introduction to al-Qur'an;

Need for Divine Guidance;

Tafsir Surah Fatihah;

Furu-ul-Iman (translation only);

Ra'fatul Bari (English Commentary Sahih Bukhari).

Introduction

The contemporary era may have advanced a great deal scientifically and materialistically, but when it comes to moral values, spiritual insight and *Imanic* essence, it is the worst era of humanity. The pervasive storm of cunningness and slyness, fraud and deception, wickedness and mischief, frivolous fun and fruitless sport, disbelief and hypocrisy, cruelty and ignobility, has posed a serious danger to the vessel of humanity. The earth is quacking because of the mischief machinery of the vicegerent—man, shivering is the sky. Land and sea, mountains and deserts, beasts and birds, all are raising the call “*al-Amaan wal Hafeez*”, in protest. Humanity is gasping its last, its pulse is sinking, and step by step the condition of this ‘dying patient’ is deteriorating. Witnessing all this, the wise are led to believe ever so more that the time of the universe drawing to a close is not too far. In the following pages, a mirror from the prophetic traditions is put forth in which all the features of the contemporary era can be perceived. Further, the issues, worth reforming, pertaining to scholars, preachers, rulers

and commonalty have also been identified. This compilation is not intended to criticize any particular class of people. The only avidity is that we turn our attention towards self-reformation after observing our characteral countenance in this immaculate mirror.

This series was initiated in the monthly '*Bayyinaat*' and the above introduction was published along with its first episode. Upon further search the compilation was to be completed and put in the form of a book, subject to the availability of time. However, things didn't happen that way. Friends are insisting to publish what is available right now. If divine help remains associated further additions will be done later.

May Allah accept it and protect the Ummah from all kinds of *fitnah*.

Muhammad Yousuf Ludhianvi.
15.10.1405 H.

The excellences of memorizing hadith

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Narrated Zaid bin Thabit, “May Allah keep that individual fresh and tender who heard our words and memorized them and then delivered them (to others).”



1. Danger of destruction; When?

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Ummul Mu'mineen (Mother of the believers) Sayyidah Zainab bint Jahsh (RA) narrates that the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) was asked, "O Messenger of Allah! Would we be destroyed even if virtuous people are among us? He replied, yes, (it will be so) when malignity (of sins) will become rampant."

(Bukhari, Muslim)

2. Trend of deceit and distrust; and representation by inefficient and inept people

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Soon, people will witness numerous years of massive deception. It will be an era in which liars will be considered as truthful and truthful liars, dishonest as faithful and faithful dishonest; and Ruwybidhah (الرُّوَيْبِضَةُ) will represent people. It was asked, "What is Ruwaybidhah"? They were told "The inefficient and inept individual who opines in the vital dealings of common people."

(*Kanzul Ummal*)

3. Myriad of Qaaries (Qur'an reciters)

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Soon, a time will come upon my Ummah when the number of Qaaries (Qur'an reciters) will increase and that of Faqeehs (Jurists) will decrease; knowledge will be taken away and turmoil will proliferate. After that, another time will come when such people of my Ummah will also recite Qur'an to whom it will not go down beyond their collarbones (i.e., their hearts will be void of comprehending, believing and honouring it). Then, another time will come when a polytheist, claiming to be a

monotheist, will argue with the Mu'min (believer) on the issue (of belief).

(Kanzul Ummal)

4. Immorality - the sign of intelligence

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Soon, a time will come upon people when man will be forced to accept either being labelled a fool or adopt immoral activities. So, whosoever faces such a time should prefer to become laughing stock for others than indulging in an immoral activity.

(Kanzul Ummal)

5. Remnants of humanity

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You will be separated just like fine dates are separated from the worthless. The virtuous individuals among you will be taken away and the worst ones will remain behind. At such a time if it is possible for you to die (because of grief), you should.

(Ibn-u-Maajah)

6. Profligacy of men and women

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I wish I knew what my Ummah's condition will be after me (and what they will have to witness) when their men will resort to strutting and their women romp around (publically). And I wish I knew when my Ummah will split into two groups; (one) who will remain determined to Allah's path; and (two), who will do everything for the sake of - other than Allah.

(Kanzul Ummal)

7. The Hour and the moon-sighting

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One of the signs of the Hour is that the moon will be sighted prematurely, thus the moon of 1st (day) will be considered that of 2nd. The mosques will turn into thoroughfares; and, sudden and unexpected deaths will become common.

(Kanzul Ummal)

8. Specific signs of the Hour

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Among the specific signs of the Hour are:

- Immorality.
- Abusive language.
- Estrangement of relations.
- Declaration of faithful as treacherous and treacherous faithful.

(Kanzul Ummal)

9. Hired witnesses and funded oaths

()

Certainly, a time will come to people when truthful among them will be termed as liars and liars truthful; treacherous will be dubbed as faithful and faithful treacherous. People will bear witness without being called for, and will take oath without being asked for; and the children of ignoble forefathers will be most fortunate in worldly (riches) having no belief in Allah and His Messenger.

(Majmu'a Zawaa'id, Faizul Qadeer)

10. Confrontation of hardships concerning faith

()

Narrated Anas (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “A time will come to people when - the example of a person staying steadfast in his faith (Islam) will be like that of one holding a burning coal in his hand.”

(Tirmidhi)

11. Loss due to deprivation of virtuous souls

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Narrated Sayyiduna Mirdaas Aslami (RA) that the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “The pious men will depart one by one, and inefficient and inept people will remain behind like the way grotty barley or dates remain behind after segregation; Allah will not care about them.”

(Bukhari)

12. Ignorant devotees and disobedient Qaaries

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Towards the end of time there will be ignorant Aabids (devotees) and disobedient Qaaries.

(Narrated Anas, Kanzul Ummal).

13. Pride over mosques

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Narrated Sayyiduna Anas (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “The Hour shall will not occur until people will feel pride in (staying inside or in relation to) the mosques”.

(Ibn Maajah, Nasa'ie)

14. Two groups from among Ahl-un-Naar (dwellers of the Fire)

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abu Huraira (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “Two groups from among the dwellers of the Fire are such whom I did not see (i.e., they will come later):

(i) – who in whose hands will be whips like ox-tail and they will flog people (unjustly);

(ii) – women, who even though dressed will still be naked (because of transparent or insufficient clothes to cover their body as per Shariah). They will entice (people by exposing their body and by their attractive dresses) and get lured (by intermingling with men). Their heads will be like the humps of ‘Bukht’ camel (because of fashion). They will neither enter the Garden nor smell its fragrance, though smelt from a distance.

(Muslim)

15. Shabbiness of Islamic world and its causes

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Narrated Sayyiduna Thawban that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “Time is close when (infidel) nations will summon one another (and conspire) to attack you like the way those sharing a ta-

blecloth invite other to join their (delicious) dish. Someone asked, "Will it be because of our insignificant number?" He replied, "No, you will be innumerable at that time, but worthless like scum and rubbish carried down by a torrent; and Allah will take out your fear and dignity from the hearts of your enemies' and cast 'Wahn' into your hearts". Someone asked, "O Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam)! What is Wahn?" He replied, "Love of the world and aversion to death".

(Abu Dawood)

16. Undutiful and inefficient followers

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Narrated Abdullah bin Mas'ood (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "Before me, any prophet, whom Allah sent to his people, had some sincere and selected companions who followed his ways and obeyed his commands. Afterwards, such disobedient successors would come who professed what they didn't practice; and practiced what they were not commanded to do. (Similarly, such disobedient people will come in

this Ummah who, though claiming to follow Islam, will still act against its decrees). He who strives against them with his hand is a believer; he who strives against them with his tongue is a believer; and he who strives against them with his heart (i.e., consider their misdeeds as corrupt at least by his heart) is also a believer (of lesser degree though); and below this there is no faith not even equal to a mustard seed.

(Muslim)

17. *Fitnah* (trials) of Dajjal (antichrist), and novel concepts

()

Narrated Sayyiduna Abu Huraira (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “During the last days there will be many quacks and imposters who will put before you words (novel concepts regarding Islam) which neither you nor your forefathers would have heard of. Beware of them; beware of them. Don’t let them mislead you and drive you towards *fitnah* (trials)”.

(Muslim)

18. *Fitnah* (mischief) of the wicked Ulema

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Narrated Sayyiduna Ali (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "Soon a time will come when nothing of Islam will endure but its name and nothing of Qur'an will persist but its words. Their (believers') mosques will be highly splendid but devoid of rectitude and righteousness. Their (so-called) Ulema will be the worst creatures residing beneath the blue sky; it will be they from whom mischief will emerge and return back to (i.e., they will be its fabricators as well as axis centers).

(Baihaqi Mishkaat)

19. Unending succession of Ahl-ul-Haq (those who follow the truth)

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Sayyiduna Muawiya narrated: I heard the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) saying, "A group of people amongst my followers will remain steadfast on Allah's

commands. They won't be harmed by those forsaking them or by those opposing them. They will remain committed to the right path till the arrival of Allah's command (i.e., Qiyaamah)."

(Agreed upon)

20. Dividing line in-between the true Ulema and the wicked ones

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Narrated Sayyiduna Anas (RA) that the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "The Ulema are custodians (regarding the Islamic religion) of the Messengers on Allah's bondsmen (concerning their religion) as long as they don't intermingle with rulers (while leaving behind the religious demands) and enter into the temporal world. But once they become hand in glove with rulers and submit to the world, they have embezzled the Messengers; thus, beware of them and stay away from them".

(Kanzul Ummal)

21. Time will turn decrepit

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abu Musa (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “The Hour shall not occur until:

- (Acting upon) the Book of Allah will be deemed a disgrace;
- Islam will turn weird;
- Enmity among people will become common;
- Knowledge will be taken away;
- Time will turn decrepit;
- Man’s age will lessen;
- Time and (food) production will (lose blessings and) decrease;

- Unreliable people will be considered as faithful and faithful unreliable;
- Anarchy and killings will take place;
- Pride will be felt over lofty buildings;
- Fecund mothers will feel grieved and sterile ones delighted;
- Injustice, jealousy and greed will rule;
- People will get killed;
- Falsehood will thrive;
- Truthfulness will decline;
- People will dispute and disagree with one another in every matter;
- Whims and desires will be followed;
- Decisions will be given on mere conjecture;
- Despite heavy rains production will decrease;
- Fountains of knowledge will wither away and the floods of ignorance will deluge;
- Children will be cause of annoyance
- It will be hot during winter;
- Fornication will become customary;
- Cords of the earth will be withdrawn;
- Khateeb (religious preachers) will utter lies;
- My due (i.e., *Mansab-i-Tashri'*: legislative post) will be handed over to the worst people of my Ummah, therefore, whosoever authenticated them and approved of what they say, will not even smell the fragrance of the Garden.

(Kanzul Ummal)

22. Selling faith for (mundane) world

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Narrates Abu Huraira that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "Be prompt in doing good deeds before the turbulent times - which would be like the layers of dark night. Man will be a believer in the morning and an unbeliever in the evening, or he will be a believer in the evening and an unbeliever in the morning; (he) will be selling his faith for few bucks.

(Muslim)

23. When will the Hour come?

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Narrated Abu Huraira: While the Prophet was addressing Sahaaba, a Bedouin came and asked, "(O Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam)) When will the Hour come?" The Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "When the practice of honouring a trust is lost, expect the Hour." The Bedouin asked, "How could it be lost?" He said, "When power will shift into the hands of the undeserved ones, then wait for the Hour"

(Bukhari)

24. Tendency towards homosexuality

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Sayyiduna Anas (RA) quotes from the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) as saying, “When my people will consider (the following) five Halaal (lawful), destruction will descend upon them:

1. When taunts and curses become a norm among them;
2. Men will put on silken dresses;
3. Keep chanteuses;
4. Consume liquor;
5. And men will suffice (sexually) with men and women with women”.

(Kanzul Ummal)

25. Music parties, and gatherings of monkeys and pigs

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Narrated Sayyiduna Anas (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “Some people of my Ummah will metamorphose into monkeys and pigs”. The Sahaaba asked, “O Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam)! Would they be bearing witness that you are the Messenger of Allah and that there is no god but Allah?”. He said, “Yes; they will (ostensibly) offer prayer, keep fast and perform Hajj”. The Sahaaba asked, “Then, why will it happen to them, O Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam)?”. He said, “They will take to musical instruments, chanteuses, drums, liquor consumption, (and finally) spend their night in fun and amusement, and in the morning metamorphose into monkeys and pigs”.

(Fathul Baari)

26. Misleading interpretations regarding unlawful things

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Narrated Sayyiduna Huzaifa (RA) that the Messenger of Allah said, “When this Ummah will legalise liquor by calling it juice, usury by profit and bribe by gift; and utilise Zakaat property in business, that will be the time of their destruction in consequence of excessive wrongdoing”.

(Baihaqi, Kanzul Ummal)

27. Terming immorality and immodesty as culture and fine arts

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Sayyiduna Abdu-r-Rahman bin Ganam al-Ash'ari (RA) narrates, "Abu Amir (RA) or Abu Malik Al-Ash'ari (RA) said to me - and by Allah they didn't speak a lie, that he heard the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) saying, "From among my followers there will be people who will consider it lawful (by pleasing interpretations) the committal of illegal sexual intercourse, the wearing of silk, the drinking of alcoholic drinks and the use of musical instruments. And there will be some people staying near a mountain side where their cattle will return after grazing; a needy will ask them for something, but (with disdain) they will tell him, "Return to us tomorrow." Allah will send chastisement to them during that night, and let the mountain plummet on them, and transform the rest of them (who give pleasant interpretations regarding the prohibited things) into monkeys and pigs until the Day of Resurrection."

(Bukhari)

28. Bad end of immorality

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Narrated Sayyiduna Ibn Umar (RA) that the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “When Allah decides to eliminate a person, (first of all) He seizes his modesty and once it is done (then because of immodesty) you will find him odious; when such will become his condition, trust will be (also) seized from him and once it is done, (then because of his distrust) you will find him treacherous and deceitful; when his condition will reach to such extent then mercy is also seized from him and once it is done (then because of cruelty) you will find him accursed and rejected; and when he will reach to this level, the collar of Islam is removed from his neck and he feels disgraced by his faith (i.e., Islam).

(Ibn Maajah)

29. Disagreement and confusion

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Narrated Abdullah bin Mas'ood (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "Verily, the initial part of this Ummah is that of virtuous people and the last one will be that of wicked ones, wielded by disagreement and confusion among them. Therefore, whosoever has faith in Allah and the Last Day must (desire to) die in the state of behaving with people the way he likes them to behave with him.

(Ibn Hibban, Kanzul Ummal)

30. Three crimes and three punishments

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abu Huraira (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "When my Ummah will consider this (temporal) world significant, then the awe and honour of Islam will depart from their hearts; when they will leave enjoining (people) what is right and forbidding what is wrong, they will be deprived of the blessings of the revelation; when they will abuse one another, they will fell down from Allah's

sight.

(Dur Manthur, Tirmidhi)

31. Clear signs of the Hour

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Narrated Sayyiduna Ibn Mas'ood (RA), "I enquired of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) about the signs of the Hour, he said,

- "O Ibn Mas'ood, certainly there are some signs of the Hour viz., children will be cause of annoyance (because of disobedience); it will be hot even during rains; and there will be a deluge of immoral and mischievous people".
- "O Ibn Mas'ood, verily, among the signs of the Hour is that truthful will be considered as liars and liars

truthful”.

- “O Ibn Mas’ood, verily, among the signs of the Hour is that treacherous will be considered as faithful and faithful treacherous”.
- “O Ibn Mas’ood, verily, among the signs of the Hour is that relationship with strangers will be deepened and severed with kith and kin”.
- “O Ibn Mas’ood, verily, among the signs of the Hours is that the leadership of every tribe will be in the hands of its hypocrites; and the supremacy of every market in the hands its immoral people”.
- “O Ibn Mas’ood, verily, among the signs of the Hour is that a believer in his tribe will be considered despicable than sheep”.
- “O Ibn Mas’ood, verily, among the signs of the Hour is that the Mehraabs (niche inside mosques) will be decorated, and the hearts (of people) will be desolate”.
- “O Ibn Mas’ood, verily, among the signs of the Hour is that men will satisfy their sexual urge with men and women with women”.
- “O Ibn Mas’ood, verily, among the signs of the Hour is that mosques’ premises will be turned splendid and pulpits will be elevated”.
- “O Ibn Mas’ood, verily, among the signs of the Hour is that deserted places of the world will be inhabited and inhabited ones rendered deserted”.
- “O Ibn Mas’ood, verily, among the signs of the Hour is that musical instruments will be in rife, and liquor will be consumed in open.
- “O Ibn Mas’ood, verily, among the signs of the Hour is that different kinds of liquor will be consumed

(like water).

- “O Ibn Mas’ood, verily, among the signs of the Hour is that there will be myriad of policemen, fault-finders, backbiters and taunters”.
- “O Ibn Mas’ood, verily, among the signs of the Hour is that illegitimate children will proliferate”.

(Kanzul Ummal)

32. Better to die than to live

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abu Huraira (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “When your rulers are kind and pleasing; your affluent ones generous and charitable; and you get your affairs solved (solicitously) by mutual consultations, then the spine of the earth is better for you than its stomach (i.e., it is better for you to live in such a milieu than to die); and when your rulers are wicked; your affluent ones miser; and your affairs in charge of your women (i.e., you obey decisions taken by them like a dutiful servant), then the stomach of the earth is better for you than its spine (i.e., it is better for you to die than living such a life).

(Tirmidhi)

33. Era of dictatorship, oppression and despotism

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abu Thalbah Khashni, Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah and Sayyiduna Ma'aadh bin Jabl (RA) narrated the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "Allah began this Ummah with Prophethood and mercy, then (after the Prophethood) there will be an era of Caliphate and mercy; after that there will be tyrannical reign; after that there will be sheer dictatorship, oppression, despotism and widespread turmoil in the Ummah; those people will make it lawful the committal of fornication, the consumption of liquor and the donning of silken clothes; despite that, they will be rendered assistance and fed by Allah all the time until meeting Him (i.e., until their death).

(Abu Dawood, Baihaqi)

34. Era, when distinction between lawful and unlawful will disappear

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Sayyiduna Abu Huraira narrates the saying of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam), "A time will come when one will not bother (because of self-will or greed) whether it is lawful or unlawful what he takes.

(Bukhari)

35. Era, when there will be deluge of usury

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Sayyiduna Abu Huraira (RA) narrates that the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "Certainly, a time will come to mankind when none will remain untouched by usury; thus, anyone avoiding it forthrightly will still be affected by its vapour". Sayyiduna Ibn Isa (RA) said, "Some of its dust will reach him". (In this case, though not getting directly involved in devouring usury, he will still be deprived of the blessings of pure earnings).

(Fathul Baari)

36. Three stages of Jihaad against the transgression of those in power

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Narrated Sayyiduna Umar (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “My Ummah will be subjected to severe hardships (in religious matters) in a number of ways by those in power. Only three types of individuals will remain unscathed:

- i. that who fathomed Allah’s faith correctly and then strived for it with his tongue, hand and heart, and therefore, progressed because of the (all three) advancements he made;
- ii. that who understood Allah’s faith and then (verbally) attested it (i.e., proclaimed it publically);
- iii. that who, though fathoming Allah’s faith, still remained silent (i.e., loved the one he found engaged in virtuous deeds and hated whom he spotted doing evil), so he, in spite of concealing his love and hate, will be eligible to enter the Garden.

(Baihaqi)

37. Era, when invocations will be turned down

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Narrated Hasdhrat Hudhaifa (RA) that the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “By Whom in Whose Hand my soul is, you shall have to enjoin what is right and prohibit what is wrong, or else, not improbable that Allah may send punishment on you; thereafter, you invoke Him but He leaves you unanswered.

(Tirmidhi)

38. Era, when Allah’s protection will suspend

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Sayyiduna Hasan Bisri (RA) quotes a statement of the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) saying, “This Ummah will always remain under Allah’s protective Hand and His shelter as long as its Ulema and Qaaries wont, frivolously, agree with the opinions of rulers; Ummat’s virtuous people (out of sycophancy) wont turn up in defense of immoral; Ummat’s best peo-

ple wont (for their personal interests) give hopes to the worst. But, once they will start doing so, Allah will hold back His Hand (i.e., pay no attention); then He will set up, from among them, tyrants and despots who will make them taste severe torment, subject them to poverty and hunger, and fill their hearts with fear (of their enemy).

(Kitaab-ur-Riqaaq Ibn Mubaarak)

39. Era, when Allah will be wrathful

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Narrated Sayyiduna Anas (RA) that the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “A time will come to people when a Mu’min (believer) invoking (Allah) in favour of Muslims won’t be answered. Allah will say (to him), “Ask for your own self and the requirements you need, I will accept it, and nothing that concerns the general masses for they have enraged me”. In another Hadith it is said “I am wroth with them”.

(Kitaab-ur-Riqaaq)

40. Era of pocket and stomach

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Narrated Sayyiduna Ibn Abbas (RA) that a time will come to people when the main aim of man will be gluttony; and his faith - following low desires of his self.

(Kitaab-ur-Riqaaq)

41. Era of showiness and sycophancy

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Narrated Sayyiduna Ma'aadh bin Jabl (RA) that the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "Towards the end of time there will be people showing overt brotherliness, but covertly they will be enemies". It was asked, "O the messenger of Allah! Why will it be so?" He said, "Because of fear and greed among them (despite aversion they will exhibit friendliness)".

(Ahmad)

42. Era of financial trials

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Sayyiduna K'ab bin Ayaaz (RA) says that he heard the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) saying, "Every nation has a *fitnah* (trial and tribulation), and my Um-mah's *fitnah* is wealth".

(Tirmidhi)

43. Era of egotism and self-loving

Narrated Sayyiduna Abbas (RA) that the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "This faith will spread transcending oceans; horses will be galloped far and wide for the cause of Jihad. After that, such groups will emerge who, after reciting the Qur'an, will say, "Now that we have recited the Qur'an, who is greater Qaari than us?, who is more knowledgeable than us?" Paying his attention towards the Sahaaba, the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "What do you think, will there be any good in them?" They said, "No". He said, "But such people will also be counted

Muslims like you; they will belong to this very Ummah; they will be fuel for the Fire”.

(Ibn Mubaarak, Abu Ya’la, Bazaar, Tabaraani)

44. Prominent aspects of the present era and 72 signs of the Hour

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Narrated Hudhaifa (RA) the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “There are numerous signs of the time before the Hour, when you see:

1. People omitting Salaah;
2. Neglecting trust;
3. Devouring usury;
4. Considering it lawful to lie;
5. Turning to bloodshed over petty issues;
6. Construction of high-rise structures;
7. Faith being sold for (mundane) world;
8. Estrangement of relations;
9. Justice becomes frail;
10. Falsehood being labeled as truth;
11. Dress that of silk;
12. 13.14. Oppression, divorce and sudden deaths becoming a routine;
15. 16. Treacherous considered as faithful and faithful treacherous;
17. 18. Truthful termed as liar and liar truthful;

19. Calumny becoming customary;
20. High temperature despite rains;
21. Children - a cause of annoyance;
22. Wicked in good social condition;
23. Noble harassed;
24. Leaders (emirs) and ministers (viziers) turning into habitual liars;
25. Faithful committing embezzlement;
26. Chieftains oppressive in nature;
27. Scholars and Qaaries turning immoral;
28. People start donning sheep hides;
29. 30. Their hearts unpleasant than carrion and bitter than aloe. At this juncture, Allah will involve them in such a trial wherein they will roam about like Jewish oppressors;
31. Gold will become common;
32. Silver will be in demand;
33. Transgression (sins) will proliferate;
34. Peace will shrink down;
35. The scriptures (Qur'an) will be decorated;
36. Mosques will be embellished with paintings;
37. Lofty minarets will be constructed;
38. Hearts will become derelict;
39. Liquor will be consumed;
40. Limits, set by the Shariah (i.e., punishments) will be left untended;
41. Concubine will give birth to her master;
42. People, (once) bare footed and naked will become kings;
43. Women will collaborate with men in business and day to day life;
44. 45. Men will imitate women and vice versa;

46. Oaths on, other than Allah, will be taken;
47. Even a Mu'min (believer) will be ready to bear (false) witness;
48. Salaam (salutation) will be given on the basis of acquaintance;
49. The knowledge of the Islamic law will be acquired for purpose other than the Faith;
50. (Mundane) world will be earned against the deeds of the Hereafter;
51. 52. 53. Spoils (of wars) will be adjudged as wealth; trust as booty; and Zakaah as tax;
54. Vilest man of tribe will become its chieftain;
55. Man will become disobedient to his father
56. And misbehave with his mother;
57. Will not hesitate to inflict loss to his friend;
58. Will obey his wife;
59. Voices of immoral people will shrill up in mosques;
60. 61. Chanteuses and musical instruments will be owned;
62. Liquor will be consumed in open;
63. Oppression will become a matter of pride;
64. Justice will be on sale;
65. Police will be in abundance;
66. Qur'an will be taken as a tool for singing;
67. Socks will be manufactured of beast hides;
68. Latter people of the Ummah will curse the former;
At that time, look out for the punishments like:
69. Red gale;
70. Sinking down into the earth;
71. Metamorphosing of appearances.
72. Down pouring of stones from the sky.

(Dur-i-Manthur)

45. Woman and Business

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Sayyiduna Ibn Mas'ood (RA) narrates from the Prophet, "Before the Hour, the following signs will manifest:

- Salaam (salutation) will be given only to elite class.
- Business will proliferate to such an extent that woman will work and collaborate alongside men.
- Relations with kith and kin will be estranged.
- Pen (information) will proliferate.
- False testimony will become common whereas true one concealed.

(Ahmad, Bukhari, Haakim, Dur-i-Manthur)

46. Bragging about lofty buildings

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Sayyiduna Ibn Mas'ood says that he heard the Messenger of Allah saying, "Among the signs of the Hour is:

- Man will walk through mosque without offering a couple of Rak'ats therein;
- And that, man will give Salaam only to those known to him.
- And that, an ordinary child will scoff at an aged for his poverty.
- And shoeless shepherds, who once grazed sheep, will brag about lofty buildings.

(Ibn Marduyah, Baihaqi, Dur-i-Manthur)

47. Signs of the downfall of Ummah

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Narrated Sayyiduna Ma'aadh bin Anas (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "This Ummah will remain steadfast on Shariah until the time three things become manifest in them:

1. Knowledge (and scholars) is taken away from them.
2. There is abundance of illegitimate children.
3. 'Saqqaaroon' will arise from them. The Sahaaba asked, "What is Saqqaaroon?" It was said, "During

the last days there will be people who, on meeting, will greet one another with lewd language and curse”.

(Ahmad, Zahbi, Dur-i-Manthur)

48. Arab will be destroyed

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Narrated Sayyiduna Talha bin Maalik (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (RA) said, “Among the signs of the Hour is the destruction of Arab”.

(Ibn Shaibah, Baihaqi, Dur-i-Manthur)

49. Global and untreatable *Fitnah* (affliction)

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Narrated Sayyiduna Hudhaifa (RA) that a grave *fitnah* (affliction) will emerge against which some courageous men will stand and attack its ‘nose’ until it will be eliminated. Thereafter, another *fitnah* (affliction) will emerge against which some men will stand and eliminate it by attacking its ‘nose’. Thereafter, another *fitnah* (affliction) will emerge against which some valiant men will stand and eliminate it by attacking its ‘face’. Thereafter, another *fitnah* (affliction) will emerge against which some men will stand and relax only after eliminating it. Thereafter, fifth *fitnah* (affliction) will emerge which will be global and which will penetrate through the whole world just like water penetrates through earth.

(*Ibn Abi Shaibah, Dur-i-Manthur*)

50. Big *fitnah* (test) of the last era

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Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Mas’ood narrates the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) as saying, “This Ummah will witness four types of *fitnah* (tests) distinctive in nature. Out of them, the last and the biggest *fitnah* (test) will be that of song singing and music playing”.

(*Ibn Abi Shaibah, Abu Dawood, Dur-i-Manthur*)

51. *Fitnah* (test) of Qur’an-reciting competitions

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Narrated Sayyiduna Hudhaifa (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “Recite Qur’an in line with the Arab pronunciation and sound. Beware of the way a lustful person reads, and also, of the pronouncing approach adopted by the Jews and Christians. Some people coming after me will recite Qur’an as if they were to sing or mourn. (Qur’an will be on their tongues only, it) will not go down beyond their throats. Their hearts, as well as of those admiring their ‘singing’, will be taken over by *fitnah* (affliction).

(*Baihaqi, Mishkaat*)

52. Causes of Allah’s chastisement

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Narrated Sayyiduna Imraan bin Haseen that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “The chastisement of sinking down into the earth, metamorphosing of appearances, and stone showering from the

sky will descend on this Ummah”. Someone among the Sahaaba asked, “When will it happen?”. It was said, “When chanteuses and musical instruments will surface and liquor is consumed”.

(Tirmidhi)

53. Era of *fitnah* (afflictions) and disorder

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abu Musa (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “After you, an era will come when knowledge will disappear, and *fitnah* (afflictions) and disorder will proliferate”. The Sahaaba asked, “What is meant by *fitnah* (afflictions) and disorder?”. It was said, “Killing”.

(Tirmidhi)

54. Reward for Ibaadah (religious observance) during the era of *fitnah* (afflictions)

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Sayyiduna Ma'qil bin Yasaar narrated the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) as saying, “Ibaadah (religious observance) during the period of *fitnah* (widespread disturbances) is similar to emigration towards me”.

(Muslim, Tirmidhi, Ahmad)

55. Mob of those deprived of good

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abudullah bin Amru (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “The Hour shall not take place until Allah takes away towards Him the practising and accredited bondsmen from the dwellers of the earth; thereafter, only those deprived of any good will remain behind; they will neither consider any virtuous deeds as virtuous nor any vile one vile”.

(Ahmad, Haakim, Dur-i-Manthur)

56. Fondness for ostentation

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Narrated Sayyiduna Ibn Umar (RA) that the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “At the end (time) of this Ummah some people will come to mosques seated on saddlecloths; their women, although clothed, will still be naked; they will have hair humped on their heads like that of a bony ‘Bukth’ camel; curse them, for they are cursed. If, after you, another Ummah were to come, you would have undertaken servitude to them just like the women of previous Ummahs became your concubines”.

(Haakim, Dur-i-Manthur)

57. Constant curse and wrath of Allah

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abu Huraira (RA) that he heard the Prophet saying, “If you survive for a long time, it isn’t improbable for you to see the people who will spend their morning and evenings under the wrath of Allah. They will have whips like ox-tails in their hands”.

(Ahmad, Muslim, Haakim, Dur-i-Manthur)

58. Ever-increasing severity in circumstances

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abu Umamah (RA) that he heard the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) saying, “Severity in circumstances will keep on escalating day by day; wealth will continue to increase; and the Hour shall not take place but on wicked people (virtuous one will be taken away one after another).

(Tabaraani, Dur-i-Manthur)

59. Will it so happen?

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Musa bin Eisa Madani (RA) quotes that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “What will befall you when your youths will turn immoral; and your daughters and women will surpass all limits?”. The Sa-haaba asked, “Will it so happen?”. He said, “Yes, more

than this; what will befall you when you will leave enjoining people what is right and forbidding what is wrong?”. The Sahaaba asked “Will it so happen?”. He said, “Yes, much more than this; what will befall you when you will consider wrong as right and right wrong?”.

(Ibn Mubaarak)

60. Obedience to women

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abu Huraira (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “When spoils (of wars) are considered as wealth; trust as booty; Zakaah as penalty; knowledge is acquired for worldly gains; man obeys his wife and disobeys his mother; brings his friend near and keeps his father away; voices shrill up in the mosques; vilest man of nation becomes its chieftain; man is respected only so as to remain safe from his oppression; chanteuses and musical instruments

become widespread; liquor is consumed; latter people curse the former. At that time, look out for the red gale; earthquakes; sinking down into the earth; metamorphosing of appearances; pouring down of stones from the sky; and different types of continuous torments like the way beads of a necklace fall, one after another, when its cord breaks”.

(Tirmidhi)

61. Zakaah will be adjudged as tax

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Narrated Sayyiduna Ali Ibn Taalib (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, “When my Ummah will indulge in (following) fifteen misdeeds tremendous calamities will overtake them”. It was asked, “O Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) What are those?”. He said, “When spoils (of wars) are considered as wealth; trust is plundered just like booty; Zakaah is deemed as penalty or tax; man obeys his wife

and misbehaves with his mother; is faithful to his friend and abandons his father; voices shrill up in mosques; vilest man of nation becomes its chieftain; man is respected only so as to remain safe from his oppression; liquor becomes rampant; chanteuses and musical instruments are owned; latter people curse formers. At that time, look out for the red gale; sinking down into the earth; metamorphosing of appearances”.

(Tirmidhi)

62. Desecration of mosques

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Sayyiduna Hasan (RA) quotes the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam), “A time will come when people will take to worldly conversations inside mosques. Avoid their company for Allah is in no need of such people”.

(Baihaqi)

63. Ignorant Muftis (interpreters of Islamic Law)

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Amr bin al-Aas (RA) narrates, "I heard Allah's Apostle (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) saying, "Allah will not take away the knowledge by removing it from the hearts of people, but He will keep on taking away the Ulema (Islamic scholars) until when none of them survives people will take ignorant individuals as their leaders, who when consulted in religious issues will give *fatwa* (opinion in religious matters) without knowledge. Consequently, they will themselves go astray and will lead people astray".

(Agreed Upon, Mishkaat)

64. Ulema and rulers

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Narrated Sayyiduna Ibn Abbas (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "A group from among my Ummah will acquire fair amount jurisprudential knowledge and will also read Qur'an. Then,

they will say, ‘let us go to rulers and obtain a portion from their worldly riches while keeping our religion aloof from them; but, it is not going to happen. As nothing except thorns are obtained when approaching a thorny plant, similarly, nothing except sins will come their way on approaching these rulers.’

(Ibn Majah)

65. Religious injunctions will be overturned

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Narrated Sayyida Aisha (RA), “I heard the Messenger of Allah saying, “The first religious thing that will be overturned like a vessel is liquor”. It was asked, “O the Messenger of Allah, “How is it possible when Allah has explicitly prohibited it?”. He said, “Some other name will be given to legalise it”.

(Daarmi, Mishkaat)

66. Root cause of destruction

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Narrated Sayyiduna Amru bin Auf (RA) that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "By Allah, I am not afraid about poverty and hunger, but what frightens me is the widening of worldly wealth for you as was widened for those (nations) before you, and you aspire for it against each other as did the previous nations, and then it destroys you the way it destroyed them".

(Mishkaat)

67. Imitation of Jews and Christians

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abu Sa'id Al-Khudri (RA) that the Prophet said, "Surely, you will follow the ways of past nations, span by span and cubit by cubit, so much so that even if they would enter a hole of a mastigure, you will follow them." It was asked, "O Messenger of Allah

(Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam)! (Do you mean) the Jews and the Christians?" He said, "Who else?"

(Agreed Upon)

In another Hadith, Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Amru (RA) narrates, "So much so that if anyone of them had committed immoral activity with his mother in public, there will surely be such kind of people in my Ummah too".

(Tirmidhi)

68. Indiscriminate killing

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abu Huraira (RA) that Allah's Messenger (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "By Him in Whose Hand my life is, the world will not come to an end until a time comes to people when the murderer won't be knowing why he killed and the slain won't be knowing why he was killed. It was asked, "Why would it happen?" He replied, "Turmoil will proliferate; both the murderer and the slain will enter the Fire".

(Muslim)

69. Bad to worst times

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Narrated Sayyiduna Az-Zubair bin Adi (RA) - We went to Sayyiduna Anas bin Malik (RA) and complained about the wrong we were suffering at the hand of Al-Hajjaj. He said, "Be patient, for, no time will come upon you but the one following it will be worse than the previous until you meet your Lord. I heard this from your Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam)."

(Bukhari, Mishkaat)

70. Courage to commit destructive sins

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Sayyiduna Anas (RA) and Sayyiduna Abu Sa'eed Khudri (RA) would say, "You do (evil) deeds (commit sins) which you deem as tiny as a hair while we used to consider those (very deeds) highly destructive during the Prophet's (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) era."

*(Bukhari - as quoted in Mishkaat,
Imam Ahmad in his Kitaab-uz-Zuhd
- narrator Abu Sa'eed Khudri (RA))*

71. Unending *fitnah* (afflictions)

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Amr (RA), “While accompanying the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) in a journey, we halted at a place. Some of us began to set up their tents and others worked on (arrow) shooting when an announcer of the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) called people to gather for prayer. When I reached there in service of the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam), he said, “O people! It was the duty of every Prophet before me to

guide his followers towards what he knew was good for them and warn them against what he knew was bad for them. Listen, this Ummah has its days of peace and (security) in the beginning, and in the last phase of its existence it will be afflicted with *fitnah* (trials) each more severe than the previous one. When a believer will be afflicted by a *fitnah* (affliction) he will say, “This is going to bring about my destruction”, but when it will be over, another one will be just round the corner, then another one. He will feel danger of getting destroyed by every *fitnah* (affliction) that he will encounter. So, whoever wishes to be delivered from the Fire and enter the Garden should die with faith in Allah and the Last Day and treat people the way he wishes himself to be treated by them. He, who swears allegiance to a Caliph should give him the pledge of his hand and the sincerity of his heart (i.e., submit to him both overtly as well as covertly) to the best of his capacity”.

(Muslim, Nasa’ie, Ibn Maajah, Ahmad, Baihaqi)

73. *Fitnah* (mischief) afflicted hearts

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Narrated Sayyiduna Hudhaifa (RA) that I heard the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) saying, “*Fitnah* (temptation) will be presented upon hearts one after the another just as a mat is woven stick by stick, and such a *fitnah*-permeated heart will have a black mark put onto it, but the one rejecting it will have a white mark. The result - there will be two types of hearts: one, white like a white marble not harmed by any turmoil or temptation so long as the heavens and the earth endure; and the other, black and dust-coloured like an upside down vessel (that no moral or virtuous word abides in it). Except the desires implanted inside, it will neither recognize what is good nor reject what is abominable (only criterion of virtue and evilness before it will be that of its desire).

(Muslim)

74. Trust will fade away from the hearts

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Narrated Hudhaifa that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) informed us about two things, one I saw (occurring) myself, and the other, I am in wait. The first - that the Trust (*Nur-i-Iman*) penetrated deep into the hearts of men, then they learnt the Qur'an, after that they learnt the Sunnah (tradition) (All this I witnessed). He also told us about its disappearance, saying, "A man will go to sleep during which a part of the Trust will be taken away from his heart, and only its trace, like that of a mole, will remain. Again, he will sleep during which the remainder part will also be taken away and its trace, like that of a blister raised over the surface of skin when an ember touches one's foot, will exist; and indeed, this blister does not contain anything. And there will come a day when people will deal in business with one another all through the day but no one among them will be exercising trust. Thus (because of the dearth of honesty) it will be said that in such and such a tribe there is such and such a person who is trustworthy, and the man will be admired for his intelligence, good manners and strength, though he will not have belief equal to a mustard seed in his heart".

(*Mishkaat*)

75. Satan in human attire

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Narrated Hudhaifa bin Al-Yaman that the people used to ask the Messenger of Allah about good but I used to ask him about evilness lest it might overtake me. So I said, "O Allah's Apostle! We were trapped in ignorance and evilness, then Allah sent to us (through you) this good (i.e., Islam); Will there be any evilness after this good?" He said, "Yes". I said, "Will there be any good after that evilness?" He replied, "Yes, but there will be 'Dakhan' in it" I asked, "What is 'Dakhan'?" He replied, "There will be some people who will instruct towards things other than my Sunnah and guide others not according to my tradition. There will be mixture of kind and unkind in them. I asked, "Will there be any evilness after that good?" He replied, "Yes, (there will be) some people calling at the gates of the (Hell) Fire, and whoever re-

sponds to their call will be thrown into the (Hell) Fire by them." I said, "O Allah's Apostle! Will you explain them to us?" He said, "They will be from our own people and will speak our language (i.e., they will be claimants of Islam and use Islamic terminology for achieving their objects)." I asked, "If I am to witness such a time, what is your instruction to me?" He said, "Stick to the group of Muslims and their Imam." I asked, "What if there would be neither a group of Muslims nor an Imam?" He said, "Then turn away from all the sects even if you were to make your habitat under the roots of some tree till death overtakes you while you are in that state."

(Mishkaat)

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In a Hadith quoted in Muslim, it is said, "After me, there will be some leaders and rulers who will neither adopt my Seerah nor my Sunnah. There will stand among them men with devilish hearts in human bodies. I (Sayyiduna Hudhaifa (RA)) asked: "O Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) What should I do if I happen to live in such a worst time?". He replied:

“Listen to the emir and carry out his orders (in what is permissible); even if he flogs your back or snatches your wealth, you must still listen and obey”.

(Mishkaat)

76. Repercussions of misdeeds

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Narrated Sayyiduna Ziyaad bin Labeed (RA) that someone talked to the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) about a certain dangerous thing. He said, “It will happen when knowledge will keep on disappearing”. I asked, “How will knowledge disappear when we will be reciting Qur’an ourselves as well as teach our children, and they teach their progeny and the practice continues till the Hour?”. He replied, “Ziyaad! May your mother miss you (i.e., may you perish), I used to consider you among the most knowledgeable individuals of Madinah (but, it is astonishing that you have failed to understand such a trivial issue; what plunged you into surprise about disappearance of knowledge?). Don’t these Jews and the Christians read Torah and the New Testament?, but still don’t act on any word therein. (Because of similar mis-

deed, this Ummah will also lose the blessings of revelation (Wahy), and only meaningless contention will remain).

(Mishkaat)

77. Misfortune of dissent

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Imam Baihaqi (RA) narrates Ibn Ishaq (RA) who quotes Sayyiduna Abu Bakr (RA) having said (on the day of ‘*Saqeefah bani Saa’idah*), “In no way is it fair for Muslims to have two emirs, because, if at any point of time it takes place, they will dissent in their decrees and issues; their congregation will become an easy prey to disunity; clashes will develop among them. At that time Sunnah will be renounced, Bid’ah (innovation) will manifest, and gigantic *fitnah* (affliction) will spread. There will be no good for anyone in such a situation.

(Hayaat-us-Sahaaba)

78. Not correcting rulers of their wrongdoing

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those present in the mosque stood and said, “By no means! Riches are our riches and spoils are our spoils”, whosoever comes between it and us we will, by means of swords, litigate him before Allah”. Sayyiduna Mu’aawiyah (RA) descended from the pulpit, and after Friday prayers called the man to his residence. The people said to one another, “the man is finished”. Thereafter, other people joined Sayyiduna Mu’aawiyah (RA) and they found the man seated on a couch beside him. Sayyiduna Mu’aawiyah said to the people, “This man saved me from certain death. I have heard the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) saying, “After me, there will be some rulers who will utter wrong and no one will have courage to correct them; they will all enter into the Fire like the way monkeys enter (into their habitat copying one another).” Sayyiduna Mu’aawiyah (RA) said, “I uttered (in order to test) the statement on the first Friday but nobody corrected me. I became apprehensive of my inclusion among those rulers. The second Friday I repeated my statement, again nobody corrected me; thus, I believed myself one of them. On the third Friday I again repeated my statement and this man stood and corrected me; thus, he resurrected me; may Allah keep him alive.

(Hayaat-us-Sahaabah)

79. Reign of undeserving individuals

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Says Raaf'e Talaa'ie, "I accompanied Sayyiduna Abu Bakr (RA) in a military expedition and on return I asked him, "O Abu Bakr (RA), give me some advice". He said, "Offer Fardh (compulsory) prayer at its proper time; give Zakaah wholeheartedly; keep fast for the month of Ramadhan; and perform Hajj. And you must know! Migration is a commendable act in Islam; and Ji-haad in migration is praiseworthy; and don't become an emir". He further said, "This emirate which appears to you moving at a snail's pace will soon spread far and wide and ultimately fall into the hands of undeserving individuals. The one who becomes an emir will have a reckoning very long, and punishment severe; and the one avoiding it, will have reckoning comparatively easier, and punishment, light. The reason behind this is that emirs get relatively more opportunities to oppress Mus-

lims, and the person who resorts to oppression breaks the covenant with Allah. Believers are neighbours and bondsmen of Allah. If a calamity befalls on a goat or a camel of any of your neighbours, you spend whole night lamenting - 'my neighbour's goat, my neighbour's camel', verily, Allah has greater right to become wroth on His neighbour's agony.

(Ibn Mubaarak, Kanzul Ummal)

80. Clash of *Zaahir* (inner) and *Baatin* (outer)

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Muhammad bin Suqah says, “I called on Na’eem bin Abi Hind and he showed me a letter wherein it was written:

From Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah (RA) and Ma’aadh bin Jabl (RA) in service of Umar bin Khattab (RA):

“As-Salamu Alaikum; We want to draw your attention towards the sensitivity of the post held by you; that full powers have been entrusted to you. All kinds of

people whether virtuous or vile, friend or foe will be produced before you, so, everybody should get his share of justice, and it is you to see to your course of action. We alarm you about the day when faces will sweat and hearts parch. Everyone's argument will fail before the argument of Allah—the Supreme. The whole creation will be imploring before Him. People will be seeking His Mercy and terrified of His punishment. A Hadith used to be read out to us that towards the end of time the Ummat's condition will be such that apparently people will live like brothers, but their hearts will be full of enmity towards one another. We have written these words to you out of concern; for God's sake, don't attribute it to something else". Was-Salam Alaik.

Sayyiduna Umar (RA) wrote in his reply:

"As-Salamu Alaikum; I received your letter wherein you have written that you want to draw my attention towards the sensitivity of the post I am holding; that full powers have been entrusted to me. All kinds of people whether virtuous or vile, friend or foe will be produced before me and everybody should get his share of justice. You have written that it is now up to me to see to my course of action. (Submitted as reply is) At such a juncture, Umar doesn't have any choice other than the success granted by Allah to remain protected from vice, and steadfast on the right track.

You have also warned me about which the previous nations were alarmed. From the very beginning, the rotation of day and night has kept on diminishing peoples' time limit. The day and night turn the distant into near, the new into old; and reveal whatever is promised - at its destined time. This process will continue until peo-

ple will reach their destinations i.e., into the Garden or the Fire.

You, while alerting me, have written that towards the end of time, the Ummat's condition will be such that apparently people will live like brothers, but their hearts will be full of enmity towards one another. Have satisfaction on the fact that neither are you among those people, nor is this that very era. That will be the era when fear and greed will be easily noticeable, and people will have association completely materialistic in nature.

You have written that this letter has been penned down by you out of concern, and for God's sake not to attribute it to something else. This you have written quite rightly and you must continue doing so, as I am not independent of you(r) (profitable advices).

Was-Salam Alaikuma.

*(Kanzul Ummal,
Musannah Ibn Abi Shaibah)*

81. (Antichrist) *Dajjal's* sect

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Narrated Sayyiduna Hudhaifa (RA) that the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "Some people towards the end of time will say, "there is nothing called

Taqdeer (destiny)”. If they fell ill, do not pay them a sick visit, and if they die, do not attend to their funerals”.

(Musnand Abu Dawood Tayaalisi)

82. Refutation of Islamic fundamentals

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Narrated Sayyiduna Ibn Abbas (RA) that Sayyiduna Umar (RA) said, “In future, some people will reject the emergence of Dajjal; reject the rising of the sun from the west before the Hour; reject the torture in the grave; reject the intercession; reject *Hauz-i-Kawther* (fount of abundance); reject that the people who after burning in the Fire will be taken out.

(Kanzul Ummal)

83. Vicissitudes of time

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Imam Zuhri (RA) narrates from Urwah (RA) that Sayyida Aisha (RA) once recited the following couplet of Labeed:

“Those people have left in whose flank life used to pass.

And left behind am I with the inept

(After reciting this) Sayyida Aisha (RA) said, “It is astonishing that Labeeb says like this about his contemporaries, if he were to witness the era we are in, what would have been his opinion?” Urwah says, “May Allah have mercy on Aisha, if she were to witness the era we live in, what would have she said?” Imam Zuhri said, “May Allah have mercy on Urwah, if he were to witness the era we live in, what would have he said?” Zubaidi, the student of Imam Zuhri, said, “May Allah have mercy on Zuhri, if he were to witness the era we live in, what would have he said?” Muhammad bin Muhaajir, the student of Zubaidi (RA) said, “May Allah have mercy on Zubaidi, if he were to witness the era we live in, what would have he said?” Uthmaan bin Sa’eed, the student of Muhammad bin Muhaajir (RA), said, “May Allah have mercy on Muhammad bin Muhaajir, if he were to witness the era we live in, what would have he said?” Abu Hamid, the student of Uthmaan bin Sa’eed (RA), said, “May Allah have mercy on Uthmaan, if he were to witness the era we live in, what would have he said?” Imam ibn Jareer, the student of Abu Hameed (RA), said, “May Allah have mercy on our teacher Abu Hameed, if he were to witness the era we live in, what would have he said?” Me, a worthless soul, tells, “May Allah have mercy on all of them, if they were to witness the era we live in, what would have been their condition?”

(Kanzul Ummal)

84. Doubt-raising through Qur’an

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Sayyiduna Umar (RA) says, “Soon, some people will arise and create doubts (regarding the faith) through Qur’an (by wrong interpretations) and dispute with you. Curb them by the Sunnah, because those well versed with the Sunnah know (the correct meaning of) the Book of Allah.

(Kanzul Ummal)

85. Claim of Qur’anic invitation

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Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Mas’ood (RA) says, “Acquire (religious) knowledge before it is taken away. The withdrawal of knowledge is that scholars will pass away.

Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Mas'ood (RA) used to say, "How will you be when *fitnah* (affliction) will penetrate you; middle-aged people will turn old and children adults. People will declare this very *fitnah* (affliction) as Sunnah, for if eschewed, it will be said that Sunnah has been abandoned. It was asked, "When will it happen?" It was replied, "When your Ulema will keep on departing and there is huge abundance of (literate but) ignorant people; there will be myriad of Qur'an reciters but scarcity of jurists (Fuqahaa); numerous emirs but scant number of trustworthy; (Mundane) world will be earned against the deeds of the Hereafter; and the knowledge of Islamic law will be acquired for the purpose other than Faith.

(Daarmi)

It is related in a Hadith quoted in Mota Imam Maalik that Sayyiduna Abdullah Ibn Mas'ood while advising a man said, "You are in a time when - there is good number of jurists (Fuqaha) but few Qur'an reciters. Presently, the limits set by the Qur'an are guarded more than its letters; few are those who beg and many who donate; Salaah is lengthy and Khutba short; people put their actions ahead of their desires. Such a time will come upon people when - there will be few jurists (Fuqaha) but myriad of Qur'an reciters; the letters of the Qur'an will be guarded carefully whereas its limits trespassed; abundance of beggars but scarce donors; Khutba (lecture) will be extensive but Salaah very brief; and people will

put their desires ahead of their actions."

87. Conjecturing in religious issues

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Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Mas'ood says, "Every succeeding year will be bad for you than the preceding one. I don't mean to say that previous year will be good in (food) productivity, or a rich man will be better off than his fellow; what I mean is that Ulema, virtuous, jurists will pass away one by one and you won't be able to find their substitute. (At that time of dearth of virtuous people) such people will arise who will 'solve' religious issues on mere self conjecture.

(Daarmi)

88. Motive behind acceding to innovation - to gain fame

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The student of Sayyiduna Ma'aadh bin Jabl, Sayyiduna Yazeed bin Umair (RA), says that whenever Sayyiduna Mu'aadh seated himself to deliver sermon he used to say, "Allah is Arbitrator; Allah judges with equity. Those who doubted were destroyed". One day Sayyiduna Mu'aadh said, "There will arise myriad of *fitnah* (trials and tribulations) after you. At that time wealth will be in abundance. Qur'an will be open (for everyone) where from believer as well as hypocrite, man as well woman, young as well as old, slave as well as free-man, will extract proof. Not improbable, one may say, "What is the matter?, I have read Qur'an, still nobody follows me. People won't follow me until I put before them novel ideas". [So, said Sayyiduna Mu'aadh (RA)]: "Beware of innovating (your faith) because such an innovation is misleading. I warn you against errors of

scholar because Satan sometimes makes even a learned man to deliver a statement that is misleading. Also, at times even a hypocrite utters what is truth". (The narrator says) I asked, "How am I going to find out that a scholar has uttered a misleading statement, and hypocrite the truth? (After all, what is the touchstone of truth and falsehood?)" He said, "Yes (I will tell you), avoid the statement of the scholar against which other specialists in the field raise their objection (and this itself proves him wrong). Nevertheless, don't get disgusted with him because of that single error for he may acknowledge his fault. (But, if he remains persistent on his mistake, then such a person is no scholar but an unenlightened soul). Also, from whosoever you happen to listen the true word, accept it, because with the truth, there is (noor) radiance.

(Abu Dawood)

89. Spurning the Qur'anic *Muhkamaat* (basic or fundamental) and pursue the *Mutashabihaat* (allegorical)

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Sayyida Aisha (RA) says that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) recited the following verse: *“(He is the One who has revealed to you the Book (the Qur’an). Out of it there are verses that are Muhkamaat (basic or fundamental).....Only the men of understanding observe the advice)*, and then said, “When you see those people who while leaving the Muhkamaat are in quest of the Mustabihaat, then, know that they are the people Allah speaks about in this verse (like this) (that they have perversity in their hearts), so, stay away from them”.

(Mishkaat)

Complete verse is as follows:

(3:7) .

He (Allah) is that Who revealed to you the Book (the Qur’ān), wherein are verses secured against undefined meanings (i.e, their meanings are explicit), and it is these verses which are principle and fundamental (i..e, the unclear ones are made to speak in accordance with the explicit ones). And some others are those whose definite meaning is hidden/unknown, whether because of being abstract in nature or due to contradiction with the explicit text. So, those in whose hearts is perversity go after such part of it whose meaning is unclear/hidden/unknown, seeking (to create) discord, and search for its interpretation that meets their desires in order to make it a basis for their ill belief, while no one knows their (correct) interpretation except Allah (or, if and as much as, He Himself reveals through Qur’an or

Hadith explicitly or by hints, only that much will be known, and nothing more than that); and those well-grounded (and sagacious) in (religious) knowledge say (regarding these verses): "We believe therein; all (verses - explicit or whose meaning is hidden/unclear) is from our Lord. (So, whatever be their meaning and objective in reality, is true)" Only the men of understanding observe the advice (i.e., this is what is demanded of the intellect, to get engrossed into the beneficial and necessary issues and avoid harmful and unnecessary ones). (Bayaanul Qur'an - Hakeemul Ummah, Hadhrat Mawlana Thanvi (RA)) (3:7)

90. Result of gluttony and stupidity - rejection of Sunnah

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Narrated Sayyiduna Al-Miqdam ibn Ma'dikarib (RA) that the Messenger of Allah said, "Beware! I have been given the Qur'an and something like it (revelation necessarily to be followed, termed as Sunnah). Beware! shortly in the future, a replete man propped on his couch (which is a sign of arrogance) will arrogantly say, "O People! Adhere only to the Qur'an; what you find in it permissible treat that permissible, and what you find in it prohibited treat that prohibited (i.e., don't refer to Sun-

religious matter, refuse it. However (it seems that), you (the general masses of the Ummah) won't leave it because destitution and necessity will compel you. Beware! The quern of Islam will remain in rotation, so, wherever the Book of Allah turns, follow it (don't mould it according to your desires). Beware! Soon, such rulers will rule over you, proposing (whatever they like) for themselves and not for others. If you disobey them, they will kill you; and if you obey them, they will (because of faithlessness) mislead you. The Sahaaba (RA) asked, "O Messenger of Allah! What shall we do (in such a situation)?" He said, "Do, what the companions of Isa bin Maryam (AS) did, they were cleaved by saws; sent to gallows (still they remained steadfast on faith); it is far better to die in Allah's obedience than to live a life of disobedience.

(Tabaraani, Kanzul Ummal)

92. Era, when one shall be put to shame for offering Salaah

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Narrated Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Umar (RA) that a day will come when a person will dissociate himself from his brother and father, and among them will be people whose hearts will be taken over by *Fitnah* (affliction)

until the day of Qiyaamah; as far as, a person will be put to shame for offering Salaah the way it is done with a prostitute for committing adultery.

*(Tabaraani,
Kanzul Ummal)*

93. Warning against dying the beard black

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Narrated Ibn Abbas that the Prophet (S) said, “Towards the end of time people will dye their beards black similar to a pigeon’s stomach; they won’t even smell the fragrance of the Paradise”.

(Nasa’ie, Abu Dawood, Ahmad)

94. Temporal gossip-gatherings inside mosques

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Narrated Abdullah bin Mas'ood that the Messenger of Allah (S) said, "A time will come when people will gather inside mosques to gossip temporal matters; don't sit with them for Allah is in no need of such people".

(Tabaraani)

95. Myriad of stupid people

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Narrated Abdullah bin Umar (RA) that the Messenger of Allah said, "Among the signs of the Hour is that intellect will peter out and there will be myriad of stupid people.

(Tabaraani)

96. Era, when time will loose its blessings

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Narrated Anas (RA) that the Messenger of Allah said, "The Hour will not take place until the 'Time' shrinks down to the extent that year would amount to month, month to week, week to day, day to hour, and hour to an

up going fire-ball”.

(Tirmidhi, Mishkaat)

Completed by the grace of Allah, glory to His name.

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